UA 2302
3-7-06
8a

Rene Fuentes/R10/USEPA/US
03/07/2006 11:24 AM

To Christy Brown/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: First rub on application of sampling methods from Seattle Class

History: This message has been replied to.

----- Forwarded by Rene Fuentes/R10/USEPA/US on 03/07/2006 11:24 AM -----

"EnviroStat, Inc." <chuck@envirostat.org>
03/07/2006 09:46 AM

To Rene Fuentes/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
cc
Subject Re: First rub on application of sampling methods from Seattle Class

Rene,

Grinding is no problem with anything except VOAs. If they are ground properly the heat is minimal. In most cases you cannot even detect an increase in temperature. There is some data out there but I do not keep track of all the data that is out there, sorry. It really does not matter since you need to have QC to demonstrate that for your project (In other words if someone is going to say you lost all the PCBs from grinding then data from another project only leads to the inevitable "yeah, but that soil is different than this soil").

For fine sediment you may not even need to grind. If you are using sediment that is -80 mesh then PROPER subsampling techniques may achieve adequate data without grinding.

Does that help?

We should talk by phone it would be easier. I am in all week.

Chuck

On 3/7/06 10:05 AM, "Fuentes.Rene@epamail.epa.gov" <Fuentes.Rene@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

> Chuck,
> We have continued thinking about your suggestions from the class and
> have proposed it to one of the facilities. However, now we have run
> into an internal lab QA issue which I would like you to address. No
> problems on the metals, but the rest are now raising some issues of
> potential concern.
>
> The problem (rub in subject) is that now it seems that there is a
> question as to whether grinding the soil to small size (undefined size
> as of now) there is concern that the soil would heat up and we would
> lose some of the PAHs and PCBs in the analyses. Christy and I have
> discussed this and are not able to sort out fact from fiction, and have
> decided to go back to you for any possible supporting info.

> Have you used this method for PAHs and PCBs ?
> Have you got data from someone else doing it to confirm this concern?
> Have you seen any comparisons on results for these analyses if sample
> is ground up versus NOT ground up?
> Any info on what relative loses to expect from the heating due to the
> grinding?
> Any clue on whether the loses due to grinding would be more than the
> variability due to size heterogeneity?
>
> Any information that you can provide Christy and myself would be very
> appreciated since we need to keep this particular sampling project
> moving and this issue could impact several other projects down the line.
>
> Thanks for any help you can provide us in the near future.
>
> René Fuentes P.E., P.HG.
> Hydrogeologist
> Office of Environmental Assessment
> USEPA Region 10 (OEA-095)
> 1200 Sixth Ave., Seattle, WA 98101
>
> phone: (206) 553-1599
> fax: (206) 553-0119
> * * * * * * * * * * * *
>
> visit our web site at
> http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/OEA.NSF/webpage/Hydrogeology
>

Charles Ramsey
EnviroStat, Inc.
PO Box 636
Fort Collins, CO 80522
Tel 970-689-5700
Fax 866-349-7272 (toll free)
chuck@envirostat.org
http://www.envirostat.org